UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

HOUSTON DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, . CASE NO. H-16-CR-0551

PLAINTIFF,

____,

V. HOUSTON, TEXAS

HOUSTON, TEXASTHURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2018

PEGGY ANN FULFORD, . 03:39 P.M. TO 04:34 P.M.

DEFENDANT. .

REARRAIGNMENT

BEFORE THE HONORABLE DENA PALERMO UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Trinity Transcription Services 1081 Main Street Surgoinsville, TN 37873 281-782-0802 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

HOUSTON DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, . CASE NO. H-16-CR-0551

PLAINTIFF,

V. HOUSTON, TEXAS

HOUSTON, TEXASTHURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2018

PEGGY ANN FULFORD, . 03:39 P.M. TO 04:34 P.M.

DEFENDANT. .

.

REARRAIGNMENT

BEFORE THE HONORABLE DENA PALERMO UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Appearances:

For the Government: BELINDA BEEK, ESQ.

Assistant United States Attorney

1000 Louisiana, Suite 2300

Houston, TX 77002

For the Defendant: PHILLIP GALLAGHER, ESQ

Federal Public Defender 440 Louisiana, Suite 1350

Houston, TX 77002

Case Manager: CAROL FELCHAK

Court Recorder: TRACY CONRAD

Transcriber: Cheryl Battaglia

Trinity Transcription Services

1081 Main Street

Surgoinsville, TN 37873

281-782-0802

Proceedings recorded by electronic sound recording; Transcript produced by transcription service.

```
1
         Houston, Texas; Thursday, February 1, 2018; 03:39 p.m.
 2
              UNITED STATES MARSHAL: All rise.
         The United States District Court for the Southern District
 3
    of Texas is now in session. The Honorable Judge Dena Palermo
 4
 5
    presiding.
 6
              THE COURT: Be seated.
 7
         (Pause)
              THE COURT: Okay. This is the United States District
 8
 9
    Court for the Southern District of Texas and I'm Judge Dena
10
    Palermo. I am calling case The United States of America versus
    Peggy Ann Fulford, Case Number 4:16-CR-55-01 --551. Is that
11
12
    correct?
13
              MR. GALLAGHER: Yes. That's right.
14
              MS. BEEK: Yes, your Honor.
15
              THE COURT: Well, yes. Sorry. I was going to ask a
16
    question.
17
              Okay, counsel, can you please identify yourself and
18
    your client for the record?
19
              MS. BEEK: Belinda Beek for the United States, your
20
    Honor.
21
              MR. GALLAGHER: And Phillip Gallagher for Miss Peggy
22
    Ann Fulford.
23
              THE COURT: Okay. And let the record reflect that
24
    the Defendant is also present.
25
         (Pause)
```

```
3
 1
    from the Defendant. So I need the Defendant and the Government
 2
    to sign it.
              MR. GALLAGHER: The Defendant's going to -- I
 3
    don't --
 4
 5
              THE CLERK: We talked about that that. As long as
    it's on the record, we don't have to have written consent.
 6
 7
              THE COURT: We don't.
 8
              THE CLERK:
                         No.
 9
              MR. GALLAGHER: Yes, ma'am. I --
10
              THE CLERK:
                          Right?
11
              MR. GALLAGHER: I think that's -- I -- that's -- yes.
12
    I have handled appeals out of Brownsville and the Court
1.3
    hasn't -- we have no objection to that. We just --
14
              THE COURT: Yeah. I think that -- off the record.
15
         (Court confers with counsel off the record)
16
              THE COURT: Okay.
17
         (Pause)
18
              THE COURT: All right. Miss Fulford before I can
19
    make a recommendation to Judge Ellison to accept your plea of
20
    guilty, I have to ask you certain questions. You must answer
21
    my questions under oath.
22
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes, ma'am.
23
              THE COURT: Miss Felcheck, can you administer the
24
    oath, please?
25
         (Defendant sworn)
```

```
5
 1
    question that I ask you, please ask me to repeat it or rephrase
 2
    it before you answer it.
 3
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: I will. Thank you.
 4
              THE COURT: Do you understand everything I've said so
 5
    far?
 6
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes, I do.
 7
              THE COURT: Okay. For all the questions that I will
    be asking you today, you have the right to talk with your
 8
 9
    attorney before answering any of the questions.
10
              And do you understand that you have the right to talk
11
    to your attorney before answering any of the questions?
12
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes, your Honor.
13
              THE COURT: Okay. Please state your full legal name
    for the record.
14
15
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Peggy Ann Fulford.
16
              THE COURT: How old are you?
17
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Fifty-nine years old.
18
              THE COURT: And how far did you go in school?
19
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: I went two years of college.
20
              THE COURT: And you can read and write in English
21
    then I take it?
22
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes, I can.
23
              THE COURT: Okay. And have you ever been treated for
24
    any mental illness or for any psychiatric of psychological
25
    problem?
```

```
1
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes, your Honor.
              THE COURT: And what was that?
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: I had -- not bipolar. I had,
 3
    what's it called, I can't come with the name of it. But I have
 4
 5
    been in a couple of psychiatric hospitals in the state of
 6
    Georgia.
 7
              THE COURT: And are you currently undergoing --
 8
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: No.
 9
              THE COURT: -- any -- no?
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: No.
10
11
              THE COURT: And are you taking any medication --
12
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: No.
13
              THE COURT: -- for any psychiatric conditions?
14
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: No.
              MR. GALLAGHER: Your Honor, just -- sorry.
15
16
         (Counsel confers with the Defendant)
17
              THE COURT: So you're currently not receiving any
18
    treatment for any mental illness.
19
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: No, I'm not.
20
              THE COURT: Okay. And are you addicted to any drug
21
    including alcohol?
22
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: No, your Honor.
23
              THE COURT: And are you presently under the influence
24
    of any drug or alcohol?
25
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: No, your Honor.
```

```
1
              THE COURT: Are you sick in any way today that would
 2
    prevent you from understanding what is happening here today?
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: No, your Honor.
 3
 4
              THE COURT: Do you take any medications regularly?
 5
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: No, your Honor.
         (Pause)
 6
 7
              THE COURT: Did you take any medications today?
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: No, your Honor.
 8
 9
              THE COURT: Have you had enough time to consult with
10
    your attorney?
11
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes, I have.
              THE COURT: And have you been able to communicate
12
1.3
    with your attorney satisfactorily?
14
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes, I have, your Honor.
15
              THE COURT: And are you satisfied with your attorney?
16
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes, I am, your Honor.
17
              THE COURT: Do you want to get any further legal
18
    advice from your attorney or ask anymore questions before we
    proceed?
19
20
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: No, your Honor.
21
              THE COURT: All right.
22
         (Pause)
23
              THE COURT: Have you had enough time to investigate
24
    the law and the facts of your client's case, Mr. Gallagher?
25
              MR. GALLAGHER:
                              Yes, your Honor.
```

```
8
 1
              THE COURT: And are you confident that the Defendant
 2
    understands the nature of the charges she faces and the
 3
    possible punishment?
 4
              MR. GALLAGHER: Yes, I am.
              THE COURT: And has your client been able to
 5
 6
    cooperate and has she cooperated you -- with you in every
 7
    respect?
 8
              MR. GALLAGHER: She has.
 9
              THE COURT: And do you believe that your client is
10
    mentally competent?
11
              MR. GALLAGHER: Yes. And since -- just I will add
12
    we've had many hours of conversation over more than a year at
1.3
    this point. And that's the basis for my answer.
14
              THE COURT: Okay. All right.
15
              The Court will recommend to Judge Ellison that the
16
    Defendant is knowingly, voluntarily, and intelligently with the
17
    advice of her counsel, seeking to enter a quilty plea.
18
         (Pause)
19
              THE COURT: Before I can recommend that Judge Ellison
20
    accept your plea of quilty, I must make sure that you
21
    understand the rights that you are giving up by pleading
22
    quilty.
23
              Do you understand that you have a right to plead not
24
    quilty?
25
              DEFENDANT FULFORD:
                                   Yes, I do.
```

Yes, your Honor.

DEFENDANT FULFORD:

25

```
13
 1
    recommendation, you will be convicted and you may lose your
    right to vote, hold public office, serve on a jury, and possess
 2
 3
    any kind of firearm?
 4
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes, your Honor.
 5
         (Pause)
 6
              THE COURT: With respect to the possession of a
 7
    firearm, that means that no one who lives with you can ever
 8
    have a firearm. There are several penalties if a firearm is
 9
    ever found in your house, your car, or anyplace under your
10
    control.
11
              Do you understand that?
12
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yeah. Yes, your Honor.
13
         (Pause)
14
              THE COURT: Do you understand these possible
15
    consequences of your guilty plea?
16
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes, your Honor.
17
              MR. GALLAGHER: May I have just one second, your
18
    Honor?
19
              THE COURT: Uh-huh.
20
         (Counsel confers with Defendant)
21
         (Court confers with Clerk)
22
              MR. GALLAGHER: Thank you, your Honor.
23
              THE COURT: Okay. Carol does now have the form for
24
    the agreement, the consent to plead before me. So can I get
25
    you all to sign it?
```

```
14
 1
              MR. GALLAGHER: Okay. your Honor, turn it --
              THE CLERK: I'm looking at it right now.
              MR. GALLAGHER: Oh, no problem.
 3
 4
              THE CLERK:
                          Sorry.
 5
              MR. GALLAGHER: It's all right.
         (Pause)
 6
 7
              MR. GALLAGHER: Do you need us to turn this on,
 8
    Carol?
 9
              THE CLERK: Yes, that'd be great.
10
         (Pause)
11
              THE CLERK:
                          Is it on?
              MR. GALLAGHER: It's the blue light. Yes, it's on.
12
13
         (Pause)
14
              THE COURT: All right I'm just going to continue
    while she's counting, we'll do it.
15
16
              Okay. So this Indictment in this case is the written
17
    charges that have been made against you. Have you and your
18
    attorney received a copy of the Indictment pending against you?
19
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes, your Honor.
20
              THE COURT: And have you been read, or have you read,
21
    this Indictment?
22
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes, your Honor.
23
              THE COURT: And has your lawyer explained to you the
24
    charges against you in the Indictment?
25
              DEFENDANT FULFORD:
                                  Yes, your Honor.
```

```
15
 1
              THE COURT: The Indictment charges you in -- in eight
 2
    counts?
 3
              THE CLERK:
                          Yeah.
 4
                          Charges you in eight counts.
              THE COURT:
 5
              MR. GALLAGHER: Right. Just so you know, she's just
 6
    pleading guilty to the one, though.
 7
              THE COURT: Right. But you are only pleading guilty
    to Count Four. And in Count Four it charges you with violation
 8
 9
    of 18USC §2314, which is interstate transportation of stolen
10
    property.
              It says specifically in Paragraph 14, that:
11
12
              "From on or about 2001 and continuing until
13
              about 2014 in the Southern District of
              Texas and elsewhere, Defendant," that's
14
15
              you, "Peggy Fulford, did knowingly
16
              transport, transmit, and transfer in
              interstate commerce and cause to be
17
18
              transported, transmitted, and transferred
19
              in interstate commerce securities or money,
20
              the aggregate value of which exceeded
21
              $5,000, towit, $200,000 of victim LH's
22
              money from Montana to Texas, knowing the
23
              same to have been obtained by fraud, all in
24
              violation of 18USC $2314."
25
              Do you understand what the Government is claiming
```

```
16
 1
    that you have done that violated Federal law?
 2
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes, your Honor.
 3
              THE COURT: Can you tell me in your own words the
    crime that you've been charged with?
 4
 5
         (Pause)
 6
         (Counsel confers with Defendant)
 7
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Oh, okay. Transferring money
 8
    from a Wells Fargo account in Montana to a Wells Fargo account
 9
    in Texas.
10
              MR. GALLAGHER: And that the money you'd gotten
11
    wasn't your money.
12
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Right.
13
              MR. GALLAGHER: You took money out --
14
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: And it was money that was someone
15
    else's money.
16
              THE COURT: That you obtained by fraud.
17
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: That --
18
              MR. GALLAGHER: Right. That you obtained by fraud.
19
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: That I obtained by fraud, yes.
20
              THE COURT: Okay. So in order to prove a violation
21
    of 18USC §2314, the Government would have to prove several
22
    essential elements beyond a reasonable doubt.
23
              And the elements are that the Government must prove
24
    is, first, that the Defendant transported, or caused to be
25
    transported in interstate or foreign commerce, items of stolen
```

- 1 property as described in the Indictment. Second, that at the
- 2 | time of such transportation, the Defendant knew that the
- 3 property had been stolen, converted, taken by fraud. And
- 4 third, that the property had a value of \$5,000 or more.
- 5 Knowing or reasonable foreseeability of interstate or
- 6 | foreign transport is not required to convict. It's enough if
- 7 the Defendant set in motion a series of events which in the
- 8 normal course led to the transportation.
- 9 Property means goods, wares, merchandise, securities
- 10 or money. The word "stolen," means all wrongful and dishonest
- 11 taking of property with intent to deprive the owner of the
- 12 | rights and benefits of ownership, temporarily or permanent.

13 **(Pause)**

- 14 **THE COURT:** Do you understand that by pleading
- 15 | guilty, you are waiving the right to make the Government prove
- 16 beyond a reasonable doubt the essential elements that I have
- 17 just described?
- 18 **DEFENDANT FULFORD:** Yes, your Honor.
- 19 **THE COURT:** Did you commit that crime?
- 20 **DEFENDANT FULFORD:** Yes, your Honor.
- 21 **THE COURT:** Okay. The penalty for this crime is
- 22 imprisonment for a term of up to 10 years and a fine of not
- 23 more than \$250,000. In addition, you will have supervised
- 24 | release of up to a maximum of three years. And if you violate
- 25 the conditions of any period of supervised release, then the

```
18
 1
    Defendant may be imprisoned for the entire term of supervised
    release without credit for time already served on the term of
 3
    supervised release. There's also a Special Assessment of $100
 4
    per count of conviction.
 5
              Do you understand that these are the penalties for
    this offense?
 6
 7
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes, your Honor.
              THE COURT: Is restitution an issue in this case?
 8
              MS. BEEK: Yes, your Honor.
10
              THE COURT: And you further understand that if a plea
11
    of guilty is accepted by Judge Ellison, you may be ordered to
12
    make restitution?
13
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes, your Honor.
14
              THE COURT: And you have agreed in the written plea
15
    agreement to make full restitution; is that correct?
16
         (Counsel confers with Defendant)
17
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes, your Honor.
              THE COURT: And full restitution in this case is
18
19
    three point file million dollars. Is that correct?
20
         (Counsel confers with Defendant)
21
              MS. BEEK: Yes. And --
22
              MR. GALLAGHER: Excuse me. Can we have -- may I have
23
    just one second, your Honor?
24
              THE COURT: Uh-huh.
25
         (Counsel confers with Defendant)
```

```
19
 1
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes, your Honor.
 2
              THE COURT: Okay. Now do you understand that Judge
 3
    Ellison will determine what amount of restitution will fully
 4
    compensate the United States?
 5
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes, your Honor.
 6
              THE COURT: And forfeiture is also an issue in this
 7
    case?
 8
         (Pause)
 9
              THE COURT: Reported on page 14?
10
         (Voices whispering)
              MR. GALLAGHER: You pay them $200,000.
11
12
              MS. BEEK: Yes, your Honor.
13
              THE COURT: Okay. Can you state the agreement on the
14
    record regarding forfeiture?
15
              MR. GALLAGHER: It's the $200,000, the money
    transported is agreed to be forfeited.
16
17
              THE COURT: Okay. Do you understand that forfeiture
18
    of the assets and restitution are two separate -- two separate
19
    things, and they're apart from the sentence and the fine that
20
    you will receive? They are separate and apart. They're
21
    additional to the sentence and the fine.
22
              So you've agreed to restitution of up to $3.5 million
23
    as set by Judge Ellison. And you've agreed to forfeiture of
24
    $200,000. And that is in addition to any sentence that the
25
    Judge may impose for prison term and any fine that he may
```

```
20
 1
    impose on you.
 2
               You understand that?
 3
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Can I talk to my lawyer?
               THE COURT:
 4
                          Yes.
 5
          (Counsel confers with Defendant)
 6
          (Pause)
 7
              MR. GALLAGHER: Thank you, your Honor.
 8
               THE COURT:
                          Okay.
 9
               So you understand that the forfeiture and restitution
10
    are in addition to, or on top of, any sentence you will receive
11
    including any fine.
12
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes.
13
               THE COURT: Okay. So according to the Plea
14
    Agreement,
15
               "The Defendant stipulates and agrees that
16
               the Defendant obtained approximately
17
               $200,000 from the criminal offense
18
               enumerated in Count Four, and that the
19
               factual basis for her guilty plea supports
20
               the forfeiture of $200,000.
21
              And the Defendant stipulates and admits
22
               that one or more of the conditions set
23
               forth in 21USC §853(p) exists. Defendant
24
               further agrees that any -- to forfeit any
25
               of Defendant's property and substitution up
```

```
1
              THE COURT:
                         DO you understand that the charges
 2
    pending against you and the punishment you may face if Judge
 3
    Ellison accepts your plea?
 4
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes, your Honor.
 5
         (Pause)
 6
              THE COURT: Okay. So there's a written plea
 7
    agreement in this case, correct?
 8
              MR. GALLAGHER: Yes, your Honor.
 9
              THE COURT: Okay. And so can you please state for
10
    the record all the terms of the Plea Agreement?
11
              MS. BEEK: Your Honor, I'll summarize the Plea
12
    Agreement.
13
              The Defendant, Miss Fulford, who goes by, or has in
14
    the past gone by various aliases that are outlined in the
15
    indictment, is going to plead guilty to Count Four of the
16
    Indictment.
17
              In that plea agreement she is agreeing to waive her
18
    right to appeal, except for ineffective assistance of counsel,
19
    and actually to -- to a sentence in excess of the statutory
20
    minimum. I believe that will be an exception as well.
21
              The Defendant agrees that the loss from her criminal
22
    conduct is $3.5 million. She's agreeing to pay restitution of
23
    $3.5 million to the four known victims of her criminal conduct.
24
    And that agreement to pay that restitution is regardless of the
25
    count of conviction.
```

The Government agrees that it will not further criminally prosecute the Defendant in the Southern District of Texas for offenses arising from the conduct that's the basis of the charge in the indictment.

Mr. Gallagher and I have discussed this, and it's in the Plea Agreement, that this is binding only in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Texas and the Defendant. And I say that because there's another pending state charge in Louisiana that has nothing to do with -- with this.

The Government agrees that it will not oppose the downward adjustment that Miss Fulford accepts responsibility pursuant to -- to the Sentencing Guidelines, unless she engages in some conduct is not consistent with accepting responsibility or if the Presentence Report finds that she has not accepted responsibility.

The Government agrees that it will also request an additional one level downward adjustment if the Defendant qualifies, as we anticipate she will, for an adjustment under \$3(e)(1.1)(A) if the offense level is 16 or greater.

If the Defendant pleads guilty to Count Four and persists in her plea through sentencing and the Court accepts the Plea Agreement, the Government will -- that shouldn't be discuss -- the Government will dismiss the remaining counts of the indictment after sentencing.

1 Do you understand that Judge Ellison can still 2 consider the conduct that forms the basis of the counts being 3 dismissed when deciding your sentence? 4 (Voices whispering) 5 THE COURT: In other words, he can consider everything that you have been charged with, even though you're 6 7 pleading guilty only to the charges in Count Four. He can 8 consider all of those charges in making his determination. 9 (Pause) 10 MR. GALLAGHER: May I have a second? 11 THE COURT: Sure. 12 (Counsel confers with the Defendant) 13 (Pause) 14 MR. GALLAGHER: Thank you, your Honor. 15 Thanks, your Honor. DEFENDANT FULFORD: 16 THE COURT: Okay. 17 So you understand that Judge Ellison can still 18 consider the conduct that forms the basis of the counts being 19 dismissed when deciding your sentence. 20 **DEFENDANT FULFORD:** Yes, your Honor. 21 THE COURT: Okay. And do you understand that the 22 Probation Office will -- will prepare a Presentence Report for 23 Judge Ellison which may have other information in it that is 24 not included in the Indictment? 25 DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes, your Honor.

	27
1	(Pause)
2	THE COURT: Do you understand that your attorney may
3	ask Judge Ellison for a downward adjustment under the
4	Sentencing Guidelines to reduce your sentence?
5	DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes, your Honor.
6	THE COURT: And do you understand that as part of the
7	Plea Agreement the Government is agreeing not to oppose your
8	attorney's request to reduce your sentence?
9	DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes, your Honor.
10	THE COURT: Do you understand that even if the
11	Government doesn't oppose your attorney's request to reduce
12	your sentence, Judge Ellison can refuse the downward
13	adjustment?
14	DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes, your Honor.
15	THE COURT: As part of the Plea Agreement
16	MR. GALLAGHER: And that's
17	MS. BEEK: Your Honor, I'm sorry. That's not
18	actually part of our agreement.
19	We probably will oppose a request for a downward
20	adjustment.
21	MR. GALLAGHER: Yeah. And also the Government hasn't
22	made any promises about what the sentence it will
23	THE COURT: Okay.
24	MR. GALLAGHER: recommend.
25	THE COURT: Oh, I thought I had read that in here.

```
28
 1
              MR. GALLAGHER: No. We've agreed to some
 2
    Guidelines --
 3
              MS. BEEK: Guideline adjustments.
              MR. GALLAGHER: -- Guidelines issues.
 4
 5
              MS. BEEK:
                         The two points and one point. That's all.
              THE COURT: Government agrees it will not --
 6
 7
              MR. GALLAGHER: And then the loss amount, but --
 8
    but --
 9
              THE COURT: -- oppose -- it says right here, though.
10
    "The Government agrees it will not oppose a downward adjustment
11
    for acceptance of responsibility."
12
              MR. GALLAGHER: Oh, does it?
13
              THE COURT: If for acceptance of responsibility
14
    pursuant to 3(e)(1.1) --
15
              MR. GALLAGHER: Oh, right.
16
              THE COURT: -- unless the Defendant engaged in
17
    conduct that otherwise is in -- acts in a manner inconsistent
18
    with accepting responsibility.
19
              MR. GALLAGHER: Right. Your Honor, I think that
20
    the --
21
              THE COURT: And it further says --
22
              MR. GALLAGHER:
                              Sorry.
23
              THE COURT: -- that the Government agrees to request
24
    an additional downward adjustment if the Defendant qualifies.
25
              MS. BEEK:
                         Maybe we're talking about different
```

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

your case, he can assess a harsher or a lighter sentence than what is called for in the Guidelines, as long as it's not more than the maximum sentence allowed for under the statute. **DEFENDANT FULFORD:** Yes, your Honor. THE COURT: You have entered into a Plea Agreement which waives your right to appeal your conviction and your sentence. You are waiving all of your rights to appeal or attack your conviction and sentence, except for your right to assert a claim for ineffective assistance of counsel. Do you understand that you are waiving your right to collaterally attack or challenge this sentence later? **DEFENDANT FULFORD:** Yes, your Honor. THE COURT: The Government, on the other hand, will still have the right to appeal the sentence or the way it was imposed even though you cannot appeal. Do you understand that the Government is not giving up its right to appeal? You look confused. Do you want to talk to your attorney about that? (Counsel confers with Defendant) (Pause) THE COURT: Do you understand that the Government is not giving up its right to appeal even though you are? **DEFENDANT FULFORD:** Yes, your Honor.

Do you understand that parole has been

THE COURT:

```
34
 1
    abolished and that if you were sentenced to prison, you will
 2
    not be released early on parole?
 3
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes, your Honor.
              THE COURT:
                          Before I can accept your plea, I must
 4
 5
    make a -- a determination that there is a factual basis to find
 6
    you guilty.
 7
         (Pause)
              THE COURT: Mr. Gallagher, does the Defendant waive
 8
 9
    the reading of the Indictment?
10
              MR. GALLAGHER: Yes, your Honor.
11
         (Pause)
12
              THE COURT: Miss Beek, can you summarize the facts in
13
    this case, please.
14
              MS. BEEK: Yes, your Honor.
15
              If the United States were to proceed to trial, the
16
    United States would prove each and every factual allegation in
    the Indictment beyond a reasonable doubt --
17
18
              THE COURT: Okay.
19
              MS. BEEK: -- including a summary of --
20
              THE COURT: Wait.
                                  Wait.
21
              MS. BEEK:
                         -- the following.
22
              THE COURT: Before you continue.
23
              I just want you to listen very carefully to what Miss
24
    Beek is -- Beek is saying because afterwards I'm going to ask
25
    you questions.
                    Okay?
```

	38
1	that she used most of their money, or
2	intended to use most of their money, for
3	her own personal expenses.
4	On or about March 15 th , 2013, Miss Fulford
5	did knowingly transport, transmit, and
6	transfer in interstate commerce, and caused
7	to be transported, transmitted in
8	interstate commerce \$200,000 of victim
9	L.H.'s money from Montana to Texas, knowing
10	that the \$200,000 was obtained by fraud."
11	THE COURT: Okay. You have heard the Government
12	summarize the facts, Mrs. Fulford. Are there any corrections,
13	changes, additions, or modifications that you would like to
14	make?
15	(Pause)
16	MR. GALLAGHER: May I can I
17	THE COURT: Uh-huh.
18	(Counsel confers with Defendant)
19	(Pause)
20	DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes, your Honor. I'm back.
21	Thank you.
22	THE COURT: Okay. So do you have any changes or
23	modifications you want to make?
24	DEFENDANT FULFORD: No, your Honor.
25	THE COURT: Okay. Are these facts true and correct?

```
40
1
    promise made to you apart from the Plea Agreement?
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: No, your Honor.
 3
              THE COURT: Are you pleading guilty to protect
    another person from criminal prosecution?
 4
 5
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: No, your Honor.
              THE COURT: Are you pleading guilty because you are
 6
 7
    quilty and for no other reason?
 8
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes, your Honor.
 9
              THE COURT: Have you read and do you understand the
10
    Plea Agreement?
11
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes, your Honor.
12
              THE COURT: Mr. Gallagher, do you know of any reason
13
    why the Defendant should not plead guilty?
14
              MR. GALLAGHER: No, your Honor.
15
              THE COURT: Do you know of any meritorious defenses
    that the Defendant would have to Count Four to which she is
16
17
    pleading quilty?
18
              MR. GALLAGHER: No, your Honor.
19
              THE COURT: Okay. Miss Beek, do you know of any
20
    additional admonishments that should be given before Miss
21
    Fulsome [sic] signs the Plea Agreement? Fulford.
22
              MS. BEEK: No, your Honor.
23
              THE COURT: Okay. Miss Fulford, how do you plead to
24
    the charge? Guilty or not guilty?
25
              DEFENDANT FULFORD:
                                  Guilty, your Honor.
```

```
41
 1
              THE COURT: Are you ready to sign the Plea -- Plea
 2
    Agreement?
 3
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes, your Honor.
              THE COURT: Okay. Miss Felchek will place you under
 4
 5
    an additional oath.
 6
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Okay.
 7
              THE CLERK: Do you swear that everything in the
 8
    affidavit, excuse me, in the Plea Agreement is true to the best
    of your knowledge?
10
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: Yes. Thank you.
11
         (Pause)
12
         (Counsel confers with Defendant)
13
              THE COURT: And then can I get you to the consent to
14
    appear before me.
15
              MR. GALLAGHER: This is what we talked before.
16
    Judge, is it ready?
17
              THE CLERK: Yes, sir.
18
              MR. GALLAGHER: I'll sign. You have to hold it up
19
    here for some reason.
20
          (Counsel confers with the Defendant)
21
         (Pause)
22
              MR. GALLAGHER: That's done.
23
         (Pause)
24
              THE COURT: Okay. These are the Court's findings.
25
              I find that the Defendant is clearly mentally
```

competent and capable of entering an informed plea. I find
that this plea is supported by independent facts establishing
all of the elements of the offense, and that the Defendant
intended to do the acts she committed.

I find that the Defendant's plea of guilty is voluntarily, freely, and knowingly made, and that the Defendant understands the nature of these proceedings, and understands the consequences of her plea of guilty, and this is an informed plea.

I will recommend to Judge Ellison that he accept your plea of guilty and find you guilty as charged in Count Four of the Indictment.

As I stated earlier, a Presentence Investigation will be conducted and a report will be prepared by the Probation

Office to assist Judge Ellison in sentencing. A Probation

Officer will interview you. You are required to give the Probation Officer information for the report. Your attorney may be present if you wish.

You and your counsel will be permitted to read the Presentence Report before the Sentencing Hearing and make any objections to the report if you feel it contains any errors.

Okay. Mr. Gallagher, will you be making arrangements for the Presentence Report?

24 MR. GALLAGHER: I will.

THE COURT: Now according to the order for PSI

```
43
1
    disclosure date and sentencing, the --
 2
              THE CLERK: You have it there.
              THE COURT: The sentencing -- I have it, yeah.
 3
 4
              THE CLERK: Can I get copies, then.
 5
              THE COURT: Yeah.
              The sentencing is set for April 26th at 10:30 a.m.
 6
 7
    before Judge Ellison.
 8
         (Pause)
 9
              THE COURT: And then order that Carol has to hand
10
    you --
11
              THE CLERK: I'm sorry. It had the older dates for
12
    the -- for the PSI disclosure date and the sentencing date.
13
              THE COURT: Okay.
14
         (Pause)
15
         (Court confers with Clerk)
16
              THE COURT: Okay. So is the Defendant currently in
17
    custody?
18
              MR. GALLAGHER: No.
              THE COURT: All right. What are the Defendant's
19
20
    present conditions of release?
21
              MR. GALLAGHER: I'd have to look through them all.
22
              She resides -- she's -- resides in New Orleans, I'm
23
    sorry, resides in Louisiana and is allowed --
24
              DEFENDANT FULFORD: In New Orleans.
25
              MR. GALLAGHER:
                               I'm sorry. In New Orleans and is
```

```
44
 1
    allowed to travel for Court.
 2
              MS. BEEK: And the Government has no objection to
 3
    continuing the current conditions of bond as they exist and as
    they're written down and She's been under --
 4
 5
              MR. GALLAGHER: It is -- yeah. There's been no
 6
    report --
 7
              MS. BEEK: Whatever they are.
              MR. GALLAGHER: -- of any non-compliance at any
 8
 9
    point --
10
              MS. BEEK: Right.
11
              MR. GALLAGHER: -- in the 13 months pendency of this
12
    case.
              MS. BEEK: And she's traveled back and forth as
13
14
    necessary travel for appearances.
15
              THE COURT: Okay. So she's out on bond. There are
16
    conditions of release. And the Government has no objection to
17
    her continuing in that -- or on that bond.
18
              MS. BEEK: On the same conditions, yes.
19
              THE COURT: Okay. With the same conditions. Okay.
20
              Is there anything else at this time?
21
              MR. GALLAGHER: No, your Honor.
22
              MS. BEEK: No, your Honor.
23
              THE COURT: All right. Then you're excused.
24
                         Thank you.
              MS. BEEK:
25
              MR. GALLAGHER:
                              Thank you, Judge.
```

								45
	(This	proceeding	was	adjourned	at	04:33	p.m.)	
İ								

	46						
1	CERTIFICATION						
2							
3	I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from the						
4	electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the above-						
5	entitled matter.						
6							
7							
8	/s/Cheryl L. Battaglia November 18, 2018						
9	Transcriber Date						
10	H-16-CR-0551						
11	02/01/18 - 11/18/18						